

"I told when his wife is gone, even if he does not appreciate her when she is there."

I was afraid he would notice with what absorbing, thirsting stare I devoured him. I wanted him so.

But he seemed to be quite as absorbed in looking at me.

"Haven't you gotten your hair fixed differently?" he asked as he held me off and looked at me. "You are such a golden, almost uncanny sprite with it flittering and flaming about your face."

"Dick, you've mussed it up yourself, you great big, teasing boy—to muss my hair up and then tell me I look uncanny."

He stopped my words with kisses and then said, "Stop, tell me the truth, breast to breast, heart to heart, life to life, are you really glad to see me? Do you still love me, even when I am a brute to you? Did you want me, even when you ran away from me? Oh, Margie, that great big, beautiful house of Harry's was hell when you were away."

"But you didn't feel that way, dear, when I was with Kitty and Eliene?"

"No, of course not. Then I knew you were away, but I was sure you still loved me. Honestly, Margie, I have suffered worse these last two days than I did when they told me you would probably be crippled for life, for then I knew that I still had you and could in some way make up for your lameness. That would not matter to me. But for the last two days I have suffered the torments of the damned, because I was sure that I had been so mean to you that you had ceased to love me.

"Margie, dear, I'm going to 'fess up.' I was not out of town at all. I left you that day furious with you and myself. I felt that life was not worth living. When I got downtown I met Bill Tenney and he said, 'What do you say to a little game of cards tonight?' I thought it would be a good thing to leave you alone, and it was then that I telephoned that I was going out of

town. But I could not play cards for thinking of our quarrel and wondering if you were as angry at me as I had been at you, and I lost \$300. Then I realized what a blame fool I was, but I felt that I must get some of that money back, as I did not have a cent and I was ashamed to tell you that, even with no board to pay, I had spent our entire income for a month on one evening's poker game. The next night I won back \$250, so I am only \$50 to the bad. So I'll take my medicine and look as pleasant as possible."

Poor Dick, he is learning that it does not take as much courage to pay the piper as it does to grin while one is doing it, and he does not realize that I, too, though perfectly innocent, will have to take some of that bitter medicine.

I know I ought to have scolded him, for I hardly know what we are going to do. We are so awfully in debt, and I haven't spent any money at all for the last two months. But I don't think it does any good to get into a row with your husband over spilt milk. It only makes matters worse and you unhappy. I can't quarrel with Dick when he comes and tells me his sorrow. I wonder, though, if he is going to give me his salary next month to pay the bills? Unless he does I know he will always be in hot water. But even in hot water with Dick is better than in cold water without him.

(To Be Continued Tomorrow.)

SCIENCE REVERSED

There were walls and a loud call for help.

Passer-By—What's the fuss in the school yard, boy?

The Boy—Why, the doctor has just been around examining us, an' one of the deficient boys is knockin' the everlasting stuffin's out of a perfect kid!

To have a woman always agree with you before you have married her is a bore—afterward it's a miracle.